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PRIORITY (Security Classification)

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

714.00/2-954

FROM : AMEMBASSY, GUATEMALA — 683 DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. — February 9, 1954 DATE

REF : Embassy Despatch 643, January 27. 714.00/1-2754

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	
	ARA-4		
	REC'D 2-11	OTHER	Dc/R-2 OLI-6 Una-4 MC-2 Cia-7 Army-3 Navy-3 Air-3

SUBJECT: Guatemalan Court Frees Major OLIVA, Arrested "Plotter."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
FEB 15 1954

The Fourth Court of First Instance in Guatemala City on February 11 released Major Enrique Trinidad OLIVA Quintana, the ex-Army officer who was the first to be arrested in the police round-up prior to the government's denunciation of an "international plot" against it, on the grounds that no case had been presented against him to support the formal charge of illegal possession of munitions. . A law, adopted in the time of General Ubico's presidency, imposes penalties, including a possible death sentence, for conviction under the charge.

Although Major Oliva was not named in the Guatemalan Government's January 29 statement concerning the "international plot" to overthrow the present regime here, newspapers connected his arrest on January 23 with the police investigation of this alleged plot.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

William L. Krieg
Counselor of Embassy

2/9/54

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JCHill:cs
REPORTER

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